

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/705,674	HIMMELSTEIN, RICHARD B.
	Examiner Stephen M. D'Agosta	Art Unit 2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to phone discussions (and RCE) with attorney. An examiner's amendment was finalized.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are new claims 1-36 (per examiner's amendment).
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bob Lech on 6-12-2006.

- a. The original claims, eg. 1-57, have been cancelled. The new claims (found below) replace these claims and are numbered starting at "1" (**new 1-36 are allowed**).
 - b. The attorney stated that the applicant reserves the right to write new claims and seek patent coverage for them as well.
1. A method for alerting a remote user to an emergency situation via a mobile unit installed in a vehicle, comprising:

- determining a geographic location of the mobile unit;
- determining an identity of the vehicle based on a unique identification stored in the mobile unit;
- determining a priority level associated with the emergency situation;
- assembling a header of a communication, the header including the geographic location of the mobile unit, the identity of the vehicle and the priority level, the header capable of being processed upon receipt by a second mobile unit to alert the remote user of the second mobile unit of the emergency situation based on the geographic location of the mobile unit, the identity of the vehicle and the priority level; and
- transmitting the communication to the second mobile unit.

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2. The method of claim 1 wherein the mobile unit includes a global positioning system receiver and the step of determining includes using the global positioning system receiver to automatically determine the geographic location of the mobile unit.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the priority level is associated with an emergency situation selected from the group consisting of: an emergency vehicle, an accident scene, road conditions, traffic signal, weather conditions, traffic conditions and detour instructions.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the communication includes a payload, the payload including data relating to the emergency situation.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the unique identification includes data selected from the group consisting of: a vehicle license number, a vehicle license number and state identifier, an identifier of a user of the vehicle, vehicle registration information, insurance information and a driver's license number of a user of the vehicle.
6. A method for alerting a user to an emergency situation via a mobile unit installed in a vehicle, comprising:
 - receiving a communication from a broadcasting mobile unit;
 - processing a header of the communication to determine a geographic location of the broadcasting mobile unit, an identification of a vehicle associated with the broadcasting mobile unit and a priority level of the emergency situation;
 - determining a geographic location of the mobile unit;
 - alerting the user of the emergency situation based on the geographic location of the mobile unit, the geographic location of the broadcasting mobile unit, the identification of the vehicle associated with the broadcasting mobile unit and the priority level.

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7. The method of claim 6 wherein the mobile unit includes a global positioning system receiver and the step of determining includes using the global positioning system receiver to automatically determine the geographic location of the mobile unit.
8. The method of claim 6 wherein the mobile unit is in communication with a visual indicator within the vehicle and the step of alerting further includes communicating with the visual indicator within the vehicle to alert the user.
9. The method of claim 6 wherein the mobile unit is in communication with an audio indicator within the vehicle and the step of alerting further includes communicating with the audio indicator within the vehicle to alert the user.
10. The method of claim 6 wherein the step of alerting further includes transmitting a signal through an electro-mechanical interface to control at least one electro-mechanical system of the vehicle in response to the emergency situation.
11. A method for selectively distributing information from a transmitting mobile unit to a plurality of receiving mobile units installed in vehicles, comprising:
 - receiving a geographic location for each receiving mobile unit;
 - obtaining an identity of each vehicle based on a unique identification associated with each mobile unit;
 - determining a subset of the plurality of mobile units based on the geographic location of each mobile unit;
 - determining a priority level associated with the information;
 - assembling a header of a communication associated with the subset of the plurality of mobile units, the header including the unique identification associated with each of the mobile units of the subset and the priority level, the header capable of being processed upon receipt by each mobile unit of the subset to alert a remote user of the respective mobile unit to the communication; and

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transmitting the communication directly from the transmitting mobile unit to the plurality of receiving mobile units.

12. The method of claim 11 further including:

determining at least one of a current speed and current direction for each mobile unit; and

the step of determining a subset of the plurality of mobile units is further based on at least one of the current speed and current direction of each mobile unit.

13. The method of claim 11 further including comparing the unique identification associated with each mobile unit to a contact log, and wherein the step of determining a subset of the plurality of mobile units is further based on the step of comparing.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein the communication includes advertising information.

15. A method for providing an advisory communication from a transmitting first mobile unit installed in a first vehicle to a remote user via a second mobile unit installed in a vehicle, comprising:

determining a geographic location of the first mobile unit;

determining an identity of the first vehicle based on a unique identification associated with the first transmitting mobile unit;

determining a priority level associated with the advisory communication;

assembling a header of a communication, the header including the geographic location of the first mobile unit, the identity of the first vehicle and the priority level, the header capable of being processed upon receipt by the second mobile unit to alert the remote user of the second mobile unit to the advisory communication;

assembling a payload of the communication, the payload including information relating to the advisory communication; and

transmitting the communication from the first mobile unit to the second mobile unit.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the advisory communication is a situation selected from the group consisting of: an emergency vehicle, an accident scene, road conditions, traffic signal, weather conditions, traffic conditions and detour instructions.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the payload includes advertising information.

18. A mobile unit installed in a vehicle for alerting a remote user to an emergency situation, comprising:

means for determining a geographic location of the mobile unit;

means for determining an identity of the vehicle based on a unique identification stored in the mobile unit;

means for determining a priority level associated with the emergency situation;

means for assembling a header of a communication, the header including the geographic location of the mobile unit, the identity of the vehicle and the priority level, the header capable of being processed upon receipt by a second mobile unit to alert the remote user of the second mobile unit of the emergency situation based on the geographic location of the mobile unit, the identity of the vehicle and the priority level; and

means for transmitting the communication to the second mobile unit.

19. The mobile unit of claim 18 wherein the mobile unit includes a global positioning system receiver and the means for determining uses the global positioning system receiver to automatically determine the geographic location of the mobile unit.

20. The mobile unit of claim 18 wherein the priority level is associated with a situation selected from the group consisting of: an emergency vehicle, an accident scene, road conditions, traffic signal, weather conditions, traffic conditions and detour instructions.

21. The mobile unit of claim 18 wherein the communication includes a payload, the payload including data relating to the emergency situation.

22. The mobile unit of claim 18 wherein the unique identification includes data selected from the group consisting of: a vehicle license number, a vehicle license number and state identifier, an identifier of a user of the vehicle, vehicle registration information, insurance information and a driver's license number of a user of the vehicle.

23. A mobile unit for alerting a user to an emergency situation via a mobile unit installed in a vehicle, comprising:

means for receiving a communication from a broadcasting mobile unit;

means for processing a header of the communication to determine a geographic location of the broadcasting mobile unit, an identification of a vehicle associated with the broadcasting mobile unit and a priority level of the emergency situation;

means for determining a geographic location of the mobile unit;

means for alerting the user of the emergency situation based on the geographic location of the mobile unit, the geographic location of the broadcasting mobile unit, the identification of the vehicle associated with the broadcasting mobile unit and the priority level.

24. The mobile unit of claim 23 wherein the mobile unit includes a global positioning system receiver and the means for determining uses the global positioning system receiver to automatically determine the geographic location of the mobile unit.

25. The mobile unit of claim 23 wherein the mobile unit is in communication with a visual indicator within the vehicle and the means for alerting communicates with the visual indicator within the vehicle to alert the user.

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26. The mobile unit of claim 23 wherein the mobile unit is in communication with an audio indicator within the vehicle and the means for alerting communicates with the audio indicator within the vehicle to alert the user.

27. The mobile unit of claim 23 wherein the means for alerting transmits a signal through an electro-mechanical interface to control at least one electro-mechanical system of the vehicle in response to the emergency situation.

28. A system for selectively distributing information from a transmitting mobile unit to a plurality of receiving mobile units installed in vehicles, comprising:

means for receiving a geographic location for each receiving mobile unit;

means for obtaining an identity of each vehicle based on a unique identification associated with each mobile unit;

means for determining a subset of the plurality of mobile units based on the geographic location of each mobile unit;

means for determining a priority level associated with the information;

means for assembling a header of a communication associated with each mobile unit of the subset, each header including the unique identification associated with the respective mobile unit and the priority level, each header capable of being processed upon receipt by the respective mobile unit to alert a remote user of the respective mobile unit to the communication; and

means for transmitting the communication directly from the transmitting mobile unit to the plurality of receiving mobile units.

29. The system of claim 28 further including:

means for determining at least one of a current speed and current direction for each mobile unit; and

the means for determining a subset of the plurality of mobile units is further operative to determine the subset based on at least one of the current speed and current direction of each mobile unit.

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30. The system of claim 28 further including means for comparing the unique identification associated with each mobile unit to a contact log, and wherein the means for determining a subset of the plurality of mobile units is further operative to determine the subset based on a comparison of the unique identification associated with each mobile unit to the contact log.

31. The system of claim 28 wherein the communication includes advertising information.

32. A system for providing an advisory communication from a transmitting first mobile unit installed in a first vehicle to a remote user via a second mobile unit installed in a vehicle, comprising:

means for determining a geographic location of the first mobile unit;

means for determining an identity of the first vehicle based on a unique identification associated with the first transmitting mobile unit;

means for determining a priority level associated with the advisory communication;

means for assembling a header of a communication, the header including the geographic location of the first mobile unit, the identity of the first vehicle and the priority level, the header capable of being processed upon receipt by the second mobile unit to alert the remote user of the second mobile unit to the advisory communication;

means for assembling a payload of the communication, the payload including information relating to the advisory communication; and

means for transmitting the communication from the first mobile unit to the second mobile unit.

33. The system of claim 32 wherein the advisory communication is a situation selected from the group consisting of: an emergency vehicle, an accident scene, road conditions, traffic signal, traffic conditions, weather conditions and detour instructions.

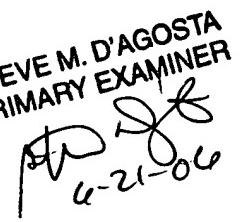
34. The system of claim 32 wherein the payload includes advertising information.
35. The system of claim 32 wherein the transmitting unit is a mobile unit installed in a vehicle.
36. The system of claim 32 wherein the transmitting unit is a base unit.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen M. D'Agosta whose telephone number is 571-272-7862. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bill Trost can be reached on 571-272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

STEVE M. D'AGOSTA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

6-21-04